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HOUSE AND SENATE OF THE FIFTY-NINTH

Save for the Flowers, the Usual Incidents of the Beginning of a Session.

The Senate Adjourned Almost Immediately—The House in Session Long Enough to Get a Line on the Sentiments of the Minority.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The assembling today of the members of the fifty-ninth congress for their first session was marked by no unusual incidents, but it attracted to the capitol crowds of spectators, who took a lively interest in the proceedings. The day was beautiful. The sun shone brightly and the air was keen. Society was out in force and filled the reserved galleries, while visitors unable to find seats assembled in corridors to catch glimpses of public men.

In the senate the progress was brief but most of the spectators seemed to find as much to interest them in observing the senators, who remained on the floor after adjournment as they could have experienced had the session continued longer.

The house was in session for more than three hours and while the proceedings followed the program that had marked the opening of congress for many years, there was enough of interest to hold an exceptionally large audience during the entire time.

One noticeable feature was the absence of flowers which heretofore have been common in both chambers. On opening days the display had been so great that the exhibition alone would have been sufficient to draw great crowds and the absence of flowers, due to a resolution adopted immediately by the senate and to an order of the speaker, robbed the occasion of much of its picturesqueness. During the session senators and representatives visited the galleries and chatted with friends.

Senators Allison and Morgan were appointed by Vice President Fairbanks as a committee to notify the president that congress was ready for any communication he desired to make. The senate was in session only twenty minutes. Senators Aldrich, of Rhode Island, Knox of Pennsylvania, Warner of Missouri and Frazier of Tennessee, took the oath of office and an adjournment was taken as a mark of respect to the late Senator Platt of Connecticut.

The preliminary steps to organization were taken by the house, Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois, was re-elected speaker; the members of the house took the oath of office, the officers and floor employees of the body were re-elected; the rules of the last congress were adopted, and the members went through the formality of drawing for seats, all of which was enlivened by the presence of crowds in the galleries. There was animation in the reunion of veteran members and interest in new ones.

In a brief speech against the adoption of the rules, the minority leader, Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, touched on the interest of the country in tariff legislation and to the new republican ideas which are being wafted to Washington on the breezes from

every part of the country. These he said might be properly legislated, should the "minority of the majority" stand with the democratic members in opposing the adoption of the old rules and forming new ones, which would permit the consideration of such legislation as popular opinion might dictate.

A committee was appointed to act with the senate committee in notifying President Roosevelt that congress was ready to transact business; the rule committee and the committee on mileage were appointed and the house adjourned after a session which lasted three and a half hours in compliance with resolutions reporting the death of Senator Platt, of Connecticut and Representative Marsh of Illinois.

THE SMOOT INVESTIGATION.
Washington, Dec. 4.—Chairman Burrows of the senate committee on privileges and elections, said that no action would be taken in the case of Senator Smoot, of Utah, until the vacancy on the committee is filled, which will put it over until after the holiday recess.

BEGINNING OF LEGISLATION.
Washington, Dec. 4.—Representative Williams of Mississippi, the leader of the minority in the house today introduced a number of bills and joint resolutions affecting the tariff and campaign contributions. These contemplate free trade with the Philippines, the assembling of the United States and Canadian joint high commission, with a view to freer trade relations between the United States and Canada, and a minimum tariff for the United States. The bill regarding campaign contributions forbids federal corporations chartered by the federal government engaged in interstate commerce from making such contributions. These measures, it is believed, indicate the probable course of the legislation on the subject of the tariff revision and reciprocity and the question of contributions to political campaigns.

Another bill proposes to establish a minimum tariff of the United States. It declares the existing tariff schedules to constitute the maximum tariff of the United States and reduction of twenty per cent from them, or rates equal to four fifths of the existing duties, to constitute the minimum tariff of the United States. The bill extends the operation of the minimum tariff to all such countries which grant admission to their markets of the product and growth of the United States, at minimum tariff rates. Mr. Williams said he had selected twenty per cent as the amount of reduction to be made in order to constitute a minimum tariff, although he thought that the reduction should be greater than that, out of deference to republican opinions.

Another bill by Mr. Williams is to amend section ten of the Dingley act. It forbids any common carrier or transportation agency of any sort, including express companies from transporting spirits, vinous or malt liquors into any state or municipality where the sale of liquor is forbidden when they are carried C. O. D. or in any manner so that the carrier is charged with the duty of collecting for the same or doing any other act as agent of the seller necessary to complete or perfect the sale.

The bill regarding campaign contributions, which indicates the trend of Mr. Williams, though it is probably those of his party associates in connection with the impression made by the life insurance investigation, forbids any national bank or any corporation chartered by the federal government or any corporation whatsoever engaged in whole or in part in interstate commerce from making contributions for the purpose of influencing the course of legislation before congress, any state legislature or any municipal government, also that any act in contravention of this provision shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall subject the violator, on conviction, to a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$10,000 and an additional fine of double the value of the money or any other thing of value found to have been contributed or promised.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA.

The First of the Jointure Bills in the House.

Washington, Dec. 4.—A large number of bills and joint resolutions were introduced in the house today. They cover a large variety of subjects, including the Philippine tariff, statehood, pensions, regulation of hours of employment in the executive departments, merchant marine, increase of salaries of vice president and members of the cabinet, requiring corporations to make full reports of their affairs to the commissioner of corporations; increasing the powers of the interstate commerce commission; investigation of campaign contributions, expenditures on the Panama canal, of insurance companies doing an interstate business, of cotton reports and conditions of child labor; a provision for six year term for president and the election of senators by the direct vote of the people.

The admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state was the subject of the first bill introduced in the house. The bill was prepared by Delegate McGuire of Oklahoma, and is almost identical with the joint statehood bill of the last session.

Representative Payne of New York introduced the Philippine tariff bill to provide temporarily for the revenues of the islands. The bill stipulates that all products grown or manufactured exclusively in the islands are to be admitted to the United States free of duty, excepting tobacco and sugar, which are to pay twenty-five per cent of the regular duty on these products. The export duty charged on such products when they leave the islands is to be deducted from the amount levied upon them when admitted to the United States.

The records for the introduction of bills was broken by the house today. Four hundred and thirty-one public bills were offered and private bills are so numerous that the employes have not counted all of them up to a late hour.

A DIRECTOR SHAKEN DOWN
An Incident in the Mutual Reserve Life
The Money Was Needed by a Newspaper Writer Who Wanted a Free Hand.

New York, Dec. 4.—The most interesting development in the legislative life insurance investigation was contained in the testimony of Horace A. Brockway, a hotel proprietor and director of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company, who said that he had given \$6,000 to President Frederick A. Burnham of that company at the demand of Mr. Burnham in 1898. Mr. Brockway told the committee that Mr. Burnham told him that if he would take out a policy in the Mutual Reserve he would make him a director. Mr. Brockway then took out policies amounting to \$6,000. After having been director for some time he was put on the pay roll of the company at \$300 a week, received that salary for five months, and then it was cut down to \$200 a week. Asked what he did to earn that money, he said he looked over some loans for the company, was consulted by policy holders as to whether the company was a good one to invest in and did whatever he was asked to do. He had been getting \$300 a week for eight weeks when Mr. Burnham demanded the \$6,000.

What President Burnham did with that money was explained by George D. Eldridge, vice president and actuary of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company, who testified that President Burnham told him he had given it to Hilary Bell, a newspaper man and publicity agent of the company, to secure publication of articles favorable to the company at a time when it was being criticized in the newspapers. Mr. Bell said that he could accomplish much more with the money if he was not compelled to report to the company just what he expended it for.

Mr. Brockway said he is still a director in the company. The reason why President Burnham was not called before the committee was given by his physician, who told the committee today that Mr. Burnham is too sick to appear or even make a deposition. Eldridge also testified that his company had much trouble with Andrew J. Clunie when he was superintendent of insurance in California, and in six years from 1897, paid Thomas J. Clunie, the commissioner's brother, \$7500 in counsel fees to represent the company before the insurance commissioner and legislature of that state, from 1897 to 1903. Commissioner Clunie had raised the point that the company ought to include in its policies the provision of the California law relating to non-forfeiture and to furnish certain lists of its policy holders at that state.

Witness said he engaged Thomas J. Clunie and that he was an attorney of high standing. Thomas J. Clunie represented the Mutual Reserve company before the insurance department and before the legislature of California. The license of the company, the witness said, was held in suspense during the last two years in which Andrew J. Clunie was insurance commissioner. It was issued near the end of his term. During Mr. Clunie's term the company was in trouble in California nearly all the time, Mr. Eldridge added. The successor to Mr. Clunie, the witness continued, did not give the company a license to do business in California, but insisted upon making an investigation, which the company did not submit to.

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A DICTATOR LAST RESORT

For the Saving of Russia From Anarchy

The Triumphate People Disposed at This Late Day to Reject Government Overtures.

St. Petersburg, Sunday, Dec. 3.—(3 p. m.)—Via Bydtkuhnen, Dec. 4.—The city remains quiet, but extreme tension prevails. Armed patrols of cavalry and infantry are in the streets, especially in the neighborhood of the telegraph office. The telegraph and postal tieup remains complete. Soldiers and employees of other departments are being used to deliver portions of the vast accumulation of mail.

The telegraph operators met yesterday's threat to discharge them today by returning to work, by resolving to prosecute the strike until their demands are satisfied. The league of leagues which is issuing decrees like a veritable provisional government, has openly defied the prefect's warning to walking delegates and agitators that any attempts to persuade employees to leave their work would lead to their arrest and imposition of a fine of \$50, by issuing a counter proclamation warning not only the Russian but the Danish operators to work at their peril.

The authorities profess confidence that the strike will be broken in a few days, but the basis of their optimism is not stated. The immolation of Interior Minister Durnovo seems to offer a way of retreat for the government. This involves another surrender before the victorious proletariat.

Count Witte is now convinced that the emperor by acceding to the demand for universal suffrage, may still find a common ground on which the government and the moderates and the extreme elements can stand. If this fails to stay the heading march of events the proclamation of a ready made constitution might be tried as the last card. Then nothing would remain except the presentation of a dictatorship.

Competent judges of the situation believe that a dictatorship, while it might restrain the rising flood temporarily, would only increase the dimensions of the cataclysm and when the dam goes, sweep the government and dynasty away to a common ruin. In order to convince the zemstovists that the government is honestly trying to meet the wishes of the moderate and substantial elements, Count Witte had invited a deputation of the Moscow congress, Mm. Petrunkevich, Koshkine and Mourousteff, and a number of other zemstovists, among them Prince Troubetsky, Dmitri Shipilov, M. Guchokoff, M. Kuzminkara and M. Vief, to participate in the sessions of the cabinet on the election law, which was continued last night and today. Count Witte appealed to the patriotism of the zemstovists, saying it was their duty not to inflame the situation, but to co-operate in saving the country from complete anarchy.

A decision was reached to grant practically a universal, secret and equal suffrage to males twenty-five years of age on the basis of one representative for each 25,000 of the population, but Count Witte refused to yield any suffrage to the country districts, and the matter will be a doubtful set of elections. Unless the extremists are willing to accept this solution, the support of the moderates will not greatly improve the situation as the latter in the present crisis are almost a negligible quantity.

Perhaps it is too much to hope that the revolutionary leaders, drunk with the success achieved, can be induced to cease their efforts which are now entirely directed to winning over the army. The telegraph operators have replied to Count Witte's refusal to treat with them by an open letter declaring they will have no negotiations with Interior Minister Durnovo, and must now continue the strike until the abrogation of all government measures to prevent the organization and activity of the congress, the liberation and reinstatement of their allied comrades.

The mutineers at Moscow will be tried by court martial.

CONFIRMATION OF KIEFF STORY
Berlin, Dec. 4.—A dispatch from Kieff, Russia, says that mutinous troops to the number of 2000 marched through streets today trying to persuade other troops to join them. The mutineers halted before the barracks of the Azoff regiment and called upon it to join. The troops fired upon the mutineers who returned the fire then fled. The casualties were seventy killed and 300 wounded. Two hundred mutineers surrendered.

MARTIAL LAW DECLARED.
Berlin, Dec. 4.—A dispatch from Kieff filed at that place today says that martial law was declared there yesterday. The troops at Kharkoff refused to take the oath of fealty to the colors.

DANGEROUSLY IDLE RESERVISTS.
Vienna, Dec. 4.—The Tagblatt publishes a communication from Odessa which was conveyed by boat to Podwoiczka, Galicia, and thence telegraphed, saying that a thousand reservists have suddenly been released from service and are hungry and homeless. They are parading the streets asking for Governor General Kaubars, who refuses to help them and they are threatening to steal and plunder. The same communication says that travelers in Odessa from Kieff report that a serious fight took place there last Friday between engineers and Cossacks. Many hundreds were killed or wounded.

MUTINY IN THE IMPERIAL GUARD

London, Dec. 4.—The correspondent in St. Petersburg of the Times, says: "Three regiments at Riga have refused to perform police duties. The emperor has received in audience Father John of Cronstadt. Count Alvensleben has brought an autograph letter from Emperor William to Emperor Nicholas. The sailors of the imperial guard have mutinied."

FLIGHT OF THE CZAR.
Rumor Based on the Coming of a German Squadron.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 3, via Bydtkuhnen, Dec. 4.—It is reported from Cronstadt that a German squadron has been sighted in the Baltic sea near the Russian coast. The rumor attributes the appearance of the squadron as preparatory to the flight of the Russian imperial family.

MOSCOW STRIKES.
Moscow, Dec. 4.—The congress of telegraphers has adopted a resolution to continue the strike, declaring that it will be impossible to secure justice until the regime of civil liberty is introduced by a constituent assembly.

The house porters declared a strike today. Their meeting was held in the "Red Place" under the walls of the Kremlin. Orators harangued the crowd from the block on which Streletzky were executed. The meeting was dispersed by dragons.

THE REBATE CASES.
U. S. Court, Western District Missouri Without Jurisdiction.

Kansas City, Dec. 4.—Judge Phillips of the United States district court today delivered an opinion holding that this court is without jurisdiction in cases brought here by federal government charging the Missouri Pacific, the Santa Fe and other railroads with giving rebates. A motion of the railroads to quash the proceedings was granted.

A CHANGE OF COLOR IN THE COMMISSION

Appointment of Lane of California Makes it Democratic.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Senators Perkins and Flint of California called on the president to discuss the appointment of a successor to Interstate Commissioner Fifer of Illinois. At the conclusion of the conference the announcement was made that the president would appoint Franklin Lane of San Francisco to the vacancy in the interstate commerce commission, created by Mr. Fifer's resignation, which takes effect on Jan. 1.

Mr. Lane's nomination will be sent to the senate tomorrow. He is a democrat and his appointment will change the political complexion of the interstate commerce commission from republican to democratic. Former Governor Fifer of Illinois, whom Mr. Lane will succeed on the commission, is a republican, as also are Commissioners Knapp and Prouty. Commissioners Cocke and Clements are democrats. While Mr. Lane also has been a democrat in politics, he was a supporter of President Roosevelt in the last campaign.

THE GRAIN MARKET WELL SUSTAINED

The Demand for Wheat Unequalled by the Supply.

Chicago, Dec 4.—Outside of the slight decline at the opening, the wheat market today had a firm tone throughout the session. The demand was good but offerings were rather light. The demand from the bull leaders was a feature of the trading during the last half hour. Greatly reduced receipts in the northwest stimulated demand here for options. The market closed firm with prices near the highest point of the day. May opened at 1-8 to 1-4 to 1-8, lower at 87 1-2 to 87 7-8, advanced to 88 1-4 to 88 3-8 and closed at 88 1-8 to 88 1-4.

Corn as a result of the demand from the leading longs and good buying by commission houses, was firm throughout the entire session. May opened 1-8 to lower at 44 5-8, sold up to 45 1-8 and closed at 44 7-8. The oats decreased to 456,000 bushels in the visible supply and a revival of the export demand were bullish factors. The close was firm with prices at the highest point of the day. May opened 1-8 lower at 31 1-8, sold up to 32 1-8 and closed at 32 to 32 1-8.

Notwithstanding an early decline of 5 to 10 cents in the price of live hogs, the provisions market was firm from start to finish. Continued liberal shipments formed the basis of the strength shown. At the close May pork was up 15, lard up 7 1-2 to 10 and ribs were 7 1-2 to 10c higher.

NEW CABINET FOR BRITAIN

The Retirement of the Balfour Government.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Leader of the Liberals, Will Seize the Helm.

London, Dec. 4.—The political crisis in the United Kingdom reached a climax today, when Arthur J. Balfour, the premier, formally tendered the resignations of himself and the members of his cabinet to King Edward, who accepted them. His majesty has invited Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman to an interview tomorrow morning, when he will offer him the task of forming a new cabinet. Sir Henry will accept, and within a few days, may be a few hours, a new government will be formed. A brief official announcement was made tonight that the cabinet had resigned, that the king had accepted the resignations of his ministers, and that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman had been sent for.

It would appear that the entire program has been cut and dried for some time, that it is even probable that the liberal leader has already selected his cabinet, though this, like everything else in connection with British officialdom, must be left to surmise.

It may be stated as certain that Lord Rosebery will be entirely ignored in the makeup of the cabinet, and that John Morley will be one of the chief advisers of Sir Henry in drawing up the list of his official family, which will be presented to his majesty.

Mr. Morley himself is considered likely to go to the Indian office, and it is probable that Herbert Henry Asquith will be chancellor of the exchequer. The foreign affairs portfolio will go either to Lord Elgin or Sir Edward Grey, though the latter is considered likely to be made secretary for the colonies.

A partial list of the honors usually conferred on the retirement of a government was issued tonight. It includes a peerage for Sir Thomas Sanderson, the retiring under secretary of state for foreign affairs, and a number of minor honors. It is expected that the honors to be conferred on prominent members of the retiring government will be announced shortly.

THE PRICE OF TIN.
Higher Than It Has Been for Nearly Twenty Years.

New York, Dec. 4.—London cables reported an excited market for tin owing to a squeeze of shorts who bid the spot position up to \$159 10s and futures to \$157 5s or to a new high record price since 1888, when the price reached \$175. The local market was quiet but very firm in sympathy with the advance abroad, closing at \$14.55 35.05.

Copper was lower in London, closing at \$7 10s for spot and \$7 7 1/2 for futures. Locally the market was firm with supplies for immediate delivery practically out of the market. Lake and electrolytic are quoted at \$23.10s in London. The local market was firm at \$23.50 1/2. Iron locally was firm and unchanged.

Lead was unchanged in London at \$16 2s 6d. The local market continued firm at the quotation for fifty ton lots for shipment in thirty deliveries, advanced to \$5.30, while quotations in spot ranged up to \$5.75.

Silver was unchanged at \$23.10s in London. The local market was firm at \$23.50 1/2. Iron locally was firm and unchanged.

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